

U.S. Appln. No. not assigned yet
International Appln. No. PCT/NZ00/00118
Docket No. 0074-456205GWW

REMARKS

No new matter has been introduced into this application by reason of the claim amendments presented herewith. The only purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to correct the form of Claims 3, 4, 7, and 8 to avoid the prohibition in 37 CFR 1.75(c) against a multiple dependent claim serving as a basis for another multiple dependent claim. There is no intention to limit the scope of those claims either expressed or implied. A marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached hereto pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(c)(3).

It is respectfully requested that the above amendments be entered prior to the first official action on this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

Claim Amendments

3.(Amended) An apparatus according to [either one of claims 1 and 2] claim 2 further comprising means between the light source and the optical fibre arranged to split the returned light from the transmitted light and direct the returned light to the photodetector.

4.(Amended) An apparatus according to [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 3 wherein the light source and photodetector are positioned remotely to the gas cell or zone.

7.(Amended) A method according to [either one of claims 5 and 6] claim 6 further comprising splitting, between the light source and the optical fibre, the returned light from the transmitted light and directing the returned light to the photodetector.

8.(Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 5 to 7] claim 7 wherein the light source and photodetector are positioned remotely to the gas cell or zone.

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